

# PREVENT STORM WATER CONTAMINATION

## *Best Management Practices for*

# Fabricated Metal Products Industry

### **Metal fabricating areas**

- ✦ Sweep on a regular basis all accessible paved areas.
- ✦ Maintain floors in a clean and dry condition.
- ✦ Remove waste and dispose of regularly.
- ✦ Sweep fabrication areas.
- ✦ Train employees on good housekeeping measures.

### **Storage area for raw metal**

- ✦ Check raw metals for corrosive activity.
- ✦ Keep area neat and orderly, stack neatly on pallets or off the ground.
- ✦ Cover exposed materials.

### **Receiving, unloading and loading areas**

- ✦ Clean up spills immediately.
- ✦ Check for leaks and remedy problems regularly.
- ✦ Unload under covered areas when possible.

### **Storage of heavy equipment**

- ✦ Clean prior to storage or store under cover.
- ✦ Store indoors.
- ✦ Divert drainage to the grass swales, filter strips, retention ponds or holding tanks.

### **Metal working fluid areas**

- ✦ Store used metal working fluid with fine metal dust indoors.
- ✦ Use tight sealing lids on all fluid containers.
- ✦ Use straw, clay absorbent, sawdust or synthetic absorbent to confine or contain any spills.
- ✦ Establish recycling programs for used fluids when possible.

### **Liquid storage tanks**

- ✦ Cover all tanks.
- ✦ Berm tanks.
- ✦ Keep area clean.
- ✦ Check piping, valves and other related equipment on a regular basis.

### **Chemical cleaners and rinse water**

- ✦ Use drip pans and other devices to collect spills or solvents and other liquid cleaners.
- ✦ Recycle waste water.
- ✦ Store recyclable waste indoors or in covered containers.
- ✦ Substitute nontoxic cleaning agents when possible.

### **Raw steel collection areas**

- ✦ Collect scrap metals, fines and iron dust and store under cover.
- ✦ Recycle.

### **Paints and painting equipment**

- ✦ Paint and sand indoors when possible.
- ✦ Avoid painting and sandblasting operations outdoors in windy weather conditions.
- ✦ If done outside, enclose sanding and painting areas with tarps or plastic sheeting.
- ✦ Use water-based paints when possible to decrease pollution.

### **Vehicle and equipment maintenance areas**

- ✦ Berm area or use other containment device to control spills.
- ✦ Use drip pans, plastic sheeting and other similar controls.
- ✦ Discard fluids properly or recycle if possible.

### **Hazardous waste storage areas**

- ✦ Store indoors.
- ✦ Label materials clearly.
- ✦ Check for corrosive activity and leaking.
- ✦ Properly dispose of outdated materials.
- ✦ Dike or use grass swales, ditches or other containment to prevent runoff or runoff in case of spills.
- ✦ Post notices prohibiting dumping of materials into storm drains.

# Best Management Practices for Fabricated Metal Products Industry

## CONTINUED

- ✦ Store containers, drums and bags away from direct traffic routes.
- ✦ Do not stack containers in such a way as to cause leaks or damage to the containers.
- ✦ Use pallets to store containers when possible.
- ✦ Store materials with adequate space for traffic without disturbing drums.
- ✦ Maintain low inventory level of chemicals based on need.

### Transporting chemicals to storage areas

- ✦ Forklift operators should be trained to avoid puncturing drums.
- ✦ Store drums as close to operational building as possible.
- ✦ Label all drums with proper warning and handling instructions.

### Finished products (galvanized) storage

- ✦ Use wooden pallets.
- ✦ Store on a concrete pad or other impervious surface.

### Wooden pallets and empty drums

- ✦ Clean contaminated wooden pallets.
- ✦ Cover empty drums.
- ✦ Cover contaminated wooden pallets.
- ✦ Store drums and pallets indoors.

### Retention ponds (lagoon)

- ✦ Provide routine maintenance.
- ✦ Remove excess sludge periodically.
- ✦ Aerate periodically. It is important to maintain the pond's aerobic character and ecological balance.

### If spills occur:

- ✦ *Stop the source of the spill immediately.*
- ✦ *Contain the liquid until cleanup is complete.*
- ✦ *Deploy oil containment booms if the spill may reach the water.*
- ✦ *Cover the spill with absorbent material.*
- ✦ *Keep the area well ventilated.*
- ✦ *Dispose of clean-up materials properly.*
- ✦ *Do not use emulsifier or dispersant.*



**City of Phoenix**

STREET TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT  
STORM WATER MANAGEMENT SECTION

(602) 256-3190

Upon request, the Street Transportation Department will make this publication available through appropriate auxiliary aids or services to accommodate an individual with a disability by calling 256-3190; or faxing a request to 495-2016.